

WELCOME TO TERM 3



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CHRIST'S COLLEGE
CANTERBURY

Each boy at his best.

Dear parents and caregivers



Kia ora. Welcome back to our College community as we embrace a busy Term 3, including our popular REACTION House Plays Festival and often hectic Winter Tournament Week. Meanwhile, our senior boys will be stepping up their

academic preparation and maintaining that focus as examinations draw closer.

Personally, it is a privilege to be assuming the role of Acting Executive Principal for Term 3. I want to ensure a smooth transition for staff and boys following Garth Wynne's farewell and as we look forward to welcoming Joe Eccleton into the leadership position from Term 4.

I have had the pleasure of working with both Garth and Joe as colleagues in education. We all share a passion for educating and growing good young men who will be the providers of – and for – the next generation of New Zealanders.

My formative years growing up with brothers, my parenting of two sons, and my years of teaching and leading in independent Anglican boys' education give me a familiarity and expertise to bring to Christ's College. I taught sciences at St Paul's School for boys in London and at King's College in Auckland, where,

Important dates

Thursday 25 July, 2.30pm–7pm, online

Year 9 parent/teacher/student meetings by appointment. School finishes at 12.50pm (lunchtime).

Thursday 25 July, 12.50pm

School finishes for all students.

Sunday 28 July, 7pm, Chapel

Choral Evensong

Monday 5 August, 8.30pm–5pm, online

Years 12–13 NCEA parent/teacher/student meetings by appointment (NO CLASSES for Years 9–13).

Thursday 8 August, 6–8pm, St Martha Eatery

Hawke's Bay Community Visit – [Register here](#)

Thursday 8 August, 7–8.30pm, Assembly Hall

NCEA Options Evening for parents and boys of Years 11–12 – [Register here](#)

Saturday 10 August, 7–10pm, Chapman Room

Around the World in 80 Questions Quiz Night – [Book here](#)

Sunday 11 August, 7pm, Chapel

Choral Evensong with The Oxfords

over 10 years, I was Housemaster, Senior Dean, and Deputy Principal (curriculum, teaching and learning). During this time, I coached and managed hockey, swimming, equestrian, rowing, and cricket teams.

My experience at King's College led to 16 years as principal at Waikato Diocesan School for Girls and St Margaret's College, from where I developed close working and collegial relationships with Christ's College. During that time, I was a member of the Anglican Schools Board, chair of School Sport Canterbury, and on the New Zealand Secondary Schools Sports Council board, as well as being a director of New Zealand Rowing.

Since leaving St Margaret's College, I have served as a Canterbury Rugby Football Union director, and remain a senior advisor to Sport New Zealand. I also have an educational consultancy business, having conducted many school reviews around the country and worked as a Limited Statutory Manager for the Ministry of Education.

My husband, David, has given much to our many school communities and looks forward to being part of the College family. No doubt our young black and white springer spaniel, Bertie, will appear as a mascot on the sidelines.

I am stepping down from my College Board of Governors position for the next three months. However, I will continue to be a Council Board Member of the University of Canterbury.

I look forward to meeting many of you and getting to know the staff and boys while I support everyone through this term of transition. Following our celebration of Garth's legacy, we are preparing to welcome Joe to lead the next era for College.

I am grateful and honoured to hold this important role in carrying the baton of leadership as this great institution heads into its 175th year of educating and growing good men.

Arohanui,

Gillian Simpson
Acting Executive Principal

Enrolments

The demand for places at College continues to climb. We will be interviewing the siblings of present students – for 2026 entry – later this year. If you have not enrolled your son, please do so immediately by [clicking here](#).

Course selection evenings

While we are only at the halfway mark in the academic year, Term 3 is an important time for looking ahead. Two key dates to keep in mind are the course selection evenings (listed below). This is an opportunity for boys and parents to speak to the relevant department representatives about the courses they are considering. While there will be a brief introduction about the option choice process, the evenings are designed for one-to-one conversations with subject experts (and, therefore, will not be live-streamed). If you have any questions, please make the most of these opportunities and join us at the respective events.

NCEA OPTIONS EVENING

Thursday 8 August, 7pm – [Register here](#)

DIPLOMA OPTIONS EVENING

Monday 19 August, 7pm – [Register here](#)

Important dates continued...

Tuesday 13 August, 5–6pm, Dining Hall

REACTION House Plays Parents' Function (Condell's, Corfe, Jacobs, Julius, Harper)
[Register here](#)

Tuesday 13 August, 6.30–8.30pm, Assembly Hall

REACTION House Plays Festival, Night One (Condell's, Corfe, Jacobs, Julius, Harper)

Thursday 15 August, 5–6pm, Dining Hall

REACTION House Plays Parents' Function (Flower's, Richards, Rolleston, School, Somes)
[Register here](#)

Thursday 15 August, 6.30–8.30pm, Assembly Hall

REACTION House Plays Festival, Night Two (Flower's Richards, Rolleston, School, Somes)

Sunday 18 August, 7pm, Chapel

Choral Evensong with The Oxfords

Monday 19 August, 7–8.30pm, Assembly Hall

Diploma Options Evening for parents and boys of Years 9–10 – [Register here](#)

Thursday 22 August, 6pm, Assembly Hall

Rock On – combined rock concert with Rangī Ruru Girls' School

Thursday 22 August, 6–8pm, Bully Hayes

Akaroa Community Visit – [Register here](#)

Monday 26 August, 8.30am–5pm, AM – onsite, PM – online

Years 10–11 Diploma parent/teacher/student meetings by appointment (NO CLASSES for Years 9–13).

Student care – car registration

Welcome back to Term 3. As part of our duty of care of our students, we have included a link for the car registration for students who drive to school. While we have for some time asked parents of boarders to [register their boys' cars](#) with us, we are now asking parents of dayboys to do the same. This is helpful while the boys are under our care.

Boarders return to Houses

We welcome boarders back from 3pm on Sunday 21 July when the boarding Houses reopen. We will also welcome a group of Immerse & Inspire students from 4pm on Sunday 21 July. We have a busy term ahead as we approach internal examinations, Winter Tournament Week, and the transition of leadership within our Houses to Year 12.

Boarders skiing

This term, boarders – accompanied by House tutor Jack Chapman – will be able to take ski trips to Mt Hutt on the following Sundays – 28 July, 11 August, 18 August, 1 September, 15 September.

Jack will travel with the boys on Snowman Shuttles, remaining on the mountain throughout the day and staying in contact with all students. The boys and Jack will be picked up from the College gates early on Sunday. Parents or boarders can now [book](#) seats on Snowman Shuttles. Once the boys have booked their shuttle seats, they must let Jack know at jack.chapman@christscollege.com so that an early breakfast and takeaway lunch can be ordered for each boy.

Leaving College?

If your son does not plan to return to College in 2025, please email executiveprincipal@christscollege.com to let us know by the end of Week 1, Term 4. Later notice will likely incur fees for Term 1, 2025.

Important dates continued...

Monday 26–Friday 30 August

Derived Grade Examinations for Years 12–13

Monday 2–Saturday 7 September

Winter Tournament Week

Monday 9–Tuesday 10 September, Assembly Hall

NCEA co-requisite examinations for Years 10–11

Wednesday 11 September, 7pm, Assembly Hall

Independent Schools Encore Choral Festival

Friday 13 September, 10.15am–12pm

Grandparents' Day – [Register here](#)

Friday 13–Sunday 15 September

New Zealand Artists at Christ's College – Christ's College USA 2025 basketball tour fundriaser – [Book here](#)

Saturday 14 September, 7.30–11pm, Te Pae

College Senior Ball

Sunday 15 September, 5–6pm, Dining Hall

Year 9 Father and Son Sunday Roast – [Book here](#)

Sunday 15 September, 7pm, Chapel

Choral Evensong

**TO VIEW OUR IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2024
CLICK BELOW**

[KEY DATES 2024](#)

[KEY BOARDING DATES 2024](#)

175 YEARS

1850



2025



CHRIST'S COLLEGE
CANTERBURY
Each boy at his best.

Cocktail Party

Friday 14 February

Black & White Dinner

Saturday 15 February

Book your tickets now at www.christscollege.com

New staff



Ashleigh Ward

PE & Health, Wellbeing

A professional footballer and member of the New Zealand Football Ferns from 2010–2023, Ashleigh Ward joins College as a PE & Health, Wellbeing teacher to help with staffing cover. She will

remain at College until the end of the year. Holding a Postgraduate Diploma in Teaching and a Bachelor of Applied Science, specialising in Sport and Exercise Science, Ashleigh has taught PE in London and coached a range of teams.



Robbie Turrell

Commerce

Robbie Turrell returns to the Commerce Department at College following a stint as Assistant Head of Faculty Social Sciences and Head of Commerce at Burnside High School.

With extensive teaching experience in England and New Zealand, Robbie holds a Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Business and Psychology, and a Master of Educational Leadership.



Aldine Vorbeck

Mathematics

Mathematics teacher Aldine Vorbeck joins Christ's College from Rolleston College where she has been the Teacher-in-Charge of School-wide Numeracy. She also holds a Master in Education and

Developmental Psychology, having gained a Graduate Certificate in Education in South Africa.



Liz Hay

History

Liz Hay joins College from Avonside Girls' High School, taking on a fixed-term position in the History Department during Warren Lidstone's absence. She also has taught Scholarship

History and been involved in writing extensive educational resources. She holds a Bachelor of Arts and a Graduate Diploma in Teaching.

Staff movements

Rob Clarke and Matt Thatcher

Head of Department – PE & Health Rob Clarke will be on sabbatical leave in Term 3, returning in Term 4. During his absence, Matt Thatcher will be the Acting HoD – PE & Health. Liz de Lautour will cover Rob Clarke's teaching classes.

Warren Lidstone

Warren Lidstone will be absent from College in Term 3 to focus on completing the school book *History, Change and Continuity* – the ongoing story of Christ's College 1998–2025, leading up to College's 175th anniversary celebrations.

KJ Smith

KJ Smith has returned to her Finance Department role in Accounts Payable following a year's absence while travelling with her family.

Flower's House leadership

From Term 3, Monique Ellis-Martin steps into the permanent role of Housemaster of Flower's House, having been Deputy Housemaster in the House since October 2017. Keri Campbell has been appointed Deputy Housemaster for Flower's House, having relinquished his Deputy Housemaster role in Julius House. Keri will move into College accommodation during Term 3. Thank you to Kris Miller for filling the role of Acting Deputy Housemaster of Flower's House in Term 2.

Katie Southworth and Dr Graeme Swanson

Katie Southworth has been appointed Acting Deputy Principal – Teaching & Learning until the end of January 2025. Dr Graeme Swanson, Director of the Centre for Teaching Excellence & Research (CTER), will be seconded to the Executive during this time.

Shannon Small

Following Katie Southworth's move, she has also stepped away from her role as Head of Teaching & Learning in the CTER. Shannon Small will fill that position until January 2025.

Jennifer Thomas

Jennifer Thomas has been appointed Acting HoD – Commerce to cover Katie Southworth's move to Acting Deputy Principal – Teaching & Learning.

Oliver Tutt

Oliver Tutt joins College from Sussex, England as the new GAP student from Term 3.

Round Square food fiesta

As part of a busy week of events organised by the senior committee to celebrate Round Square International Week, food trucks will be on-campus on Thursday 1 August. Please support this international food fiesta by sending your son with money or eftpos to buy lunch that day.



College jersey

Our very popular merino-blend, black College jersey is back in stock at the Uniform Shop. A merino-blend vest is also available. The V-neck jersey costs \$140 while the V-neck vest is \$130. You can call in to our Uniform Shop on Mondays 10am–4pm, Tuesdays 10.30am–4pm, or Wednesdays 10am–4pm to view the full range or email the Uniform Shop at uniformshop@christscollege.com. The shop is also open on Thursday 10am–4pm and Friday 10am–4pm during the first week of Term 3.



Chapel Choir Hymn Sing-a-Thon

Sunday 28 July, 2.30–4pm
Christ's College Chapel

The College Chapel Choir invites you to join us in singing some of those great congregational hymns that have been so popular over the years. Join the 110-strong Chapel Choir and brass as we enjoy an afternoon of fine music-making.

Retiring koha towards the Chapel Choir European Tour 2024 in September.



Year 9 Father and Son Sunday Roast

We would be delighted if you could join us in the Dining Hall for a tasty Sunday roast, and an opportunity to connect with other members of our Year 9 community.

Sunday 15 September, 5–6pm
Christ's College Dining Hall

[Register here](#)



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